

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF**  
**HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. CT-1205

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Governors Run Wharf

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number located near end of Governors Run Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Governors Run ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Port Republic, Maryland county Calvert

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Governors Run Condominium Association, Steve Kullen, Community Liaison

street & number 2847 Governors Run Road telephone no.:

city, town Port Republic state and zip code MD 20676

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. M.D.A.T. liber

street & number Goldstein Building, 200 Duke Street folio

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1205

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☒ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

Standing Wharf Structures: None.

Associated Standing Wharf Structures: None.

Description: Governors Run Wharf is a historic wharf site with no visible features on land or above mean low water.

Previously Existing Wharf Structures: "Map of Calvert County Showing Topography and Election Districts" 1902 depicts an "L" wharf running perpendicular from the shore with a structure on the north side of a connecting road at the juncture with the water and two more structures just south along the water. "Chart no. 18 Natural Oyster Bars Calvert County, Maryland" 1908 depicts a long wharf. Unfortunately, a chart triangulation point is located at the head of the wharf obscuring the shape. A cluster of five structures is shown at the end of the road leading to the water. "West Shore of Chesapeake Bay Parkers Creek to Point of Rocks" 1908 depicts a long wharf with an "L" head. The "L" points north opposite the direction suggested by the 1902 map above. "Soil Map Calvert County, Maryland" 1928 uses the same base map as the 1902 map with the same wharf depiction. These maps and charts suggest the wharf was "L" headed and lengthened sometime after 1902. An aerial photograph dated 1938 shows a wharf approximately 240 feet long at Governors Run as well as a pier approximately 320 feet long at Kenwood Beach.<sup>66</sup> The present pier at Governors Run is located about 50 feet south of the end of Governors Run Road where the steamboat wharf is believed to have been located. "Broomes Island Quadrangle," 7.5 minute series, dated 1963, depicts the present pier, not the steamboat pier.

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<sup>66</sup> Aerial photograph AHS 10-3, dated 1938, scale 1 inch equals 660 feet, Calvert Soil Conservation District, photostatic copy deposited at Calvert Marine Museum.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. T-1205

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1872–1928

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Governors Run Wharf was located near the end of Governors Run Road (Route 509) on the Chesapeake Bay. A long fishing pier and boat ramp are located at the wharf site. A second long fishing pier is located about 200 yards south at the Kenwood Beach development. "...Governors Run, another long wharf..." is how Governors Run Wharf was described in 1896. Near this landing Mrs. W. A. Dorsey ran a "Country Home" described in 1896 as "situated directly on the Bay, with Fine Bathing, Fishing and Crabs, Fresh from the Water; and an abundance of Fresh Milk, Poultry and Ice. Large and Comfortable Rooms. Rates on application. Baltimore references given." Mrs. J. S. Talbott ran another nearby boarding house described as "Delightfully situated on the Chesapeake Bay; Good Fishing, Crabbing, Boating and Bathing. Rates on application."<sup>67</sup>

In 1907 the wharf generated \$2,472.00 in local freight, \$56.74 in through freight, and \$3,240.83 for passengers, for a total revenue of \$5,769.57.<sup>68</sup> In the 1920s schooners working in competition to the steamboats, anchored off the wide curving shore of Governors Run to load wood and other materials to be freighted to other portions of the Chesapeake.<sup>69</sup>

<sup>67</sup> *Summer Homes and Historical Points Along the Routes of the Weems Steamboat Company* (1896), pp. 5 and 55.

<sup>68</sup> "Maryland Delaware & Virginia Railway Company Annual Report, Statement of Freight and Passenger Revenue by Wharves for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31st, 1907." Original in private ownership, copy deposited in collections of Calvert Marine Museum.

<sup>69</sup> Swepson Earle, *The Chesapeake Country* (Baltimore, Maryland: Thomas-Ellis Company, 1923) p. 171.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-1205

See context study bibliography in "Calvert County Steamboat Wharves and Landings: Architectural Survey and Inventory."

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Broomes Island

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph Eshelman

organization Eshelman & Associates

date December 19, 1996

street & number 12178 Preston Drive

telephone 410-326-4877

city or town Lusby

state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
814-7800

## Continuation Sheet 8.1 Governors Run Wharf

Governors Run Wharf is one of twenty historic steamboat wharf/landing sites identified in "Calvert County Steamboat Wharves and Landings: Architectural Level Survey and Inventory." This survey and inventory was completed in 1996 by Eshelman & Associates for the Calvert County Historic District Commission with funding from the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners. The final report includes a context study which places the historic significance of these steamboat wharf and landing sites within the broad pattern of local county history and regional history of the Chesapeake Bay. The study falls within the theme of "Transportation" within the time periods of "Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)" and "Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)." Refer to this study for a general historical review and historical significance of the resources as a whole.





CF-1205  
GOVERNORS RUN WHARF

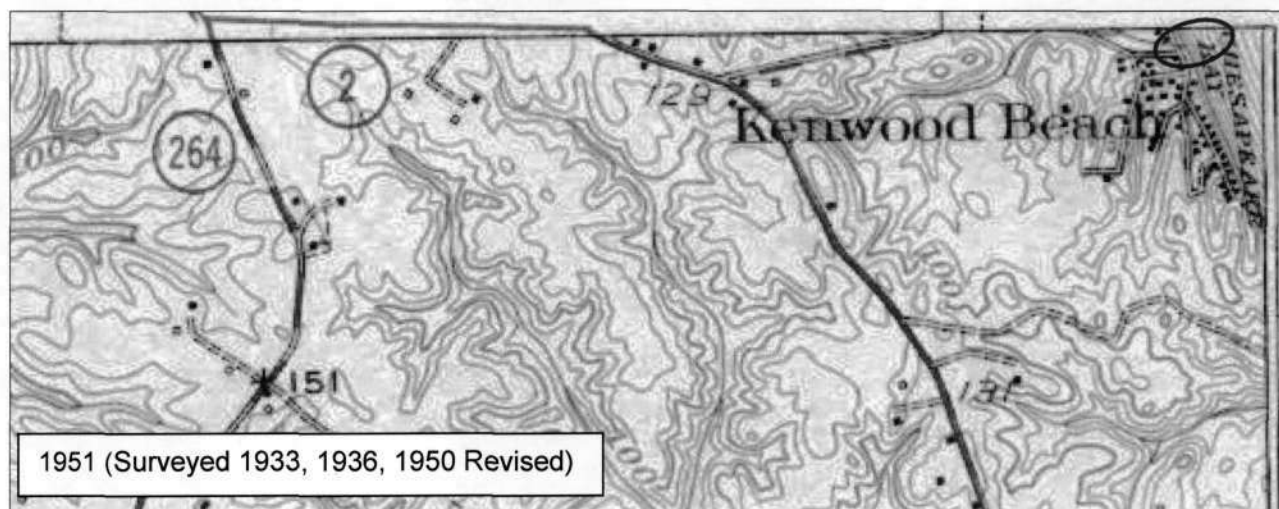
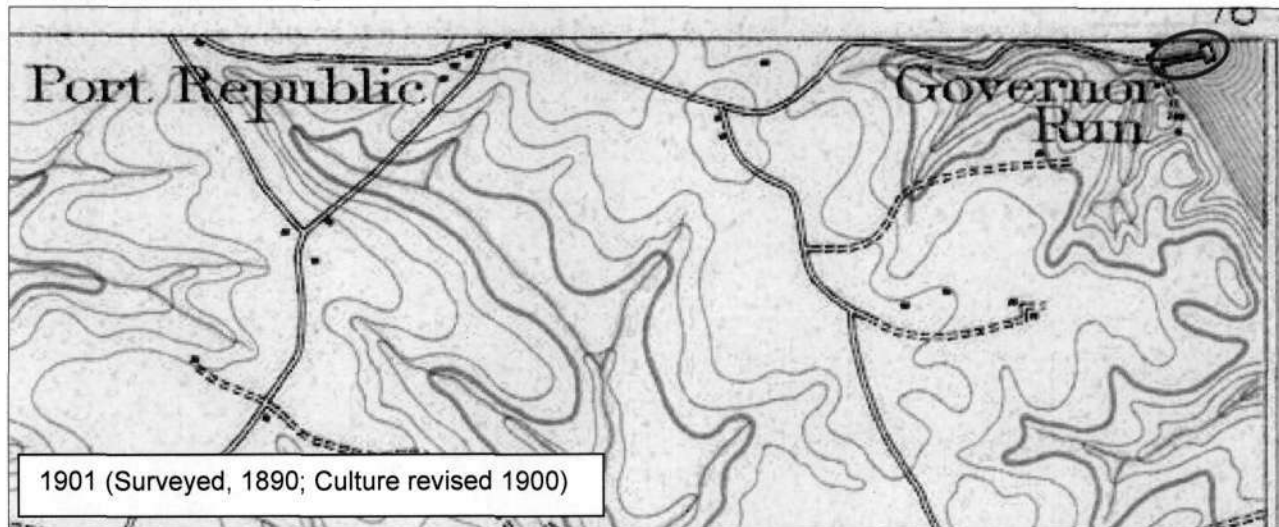
Governors

Garner's Run Wharf

1978 AHS 10-3

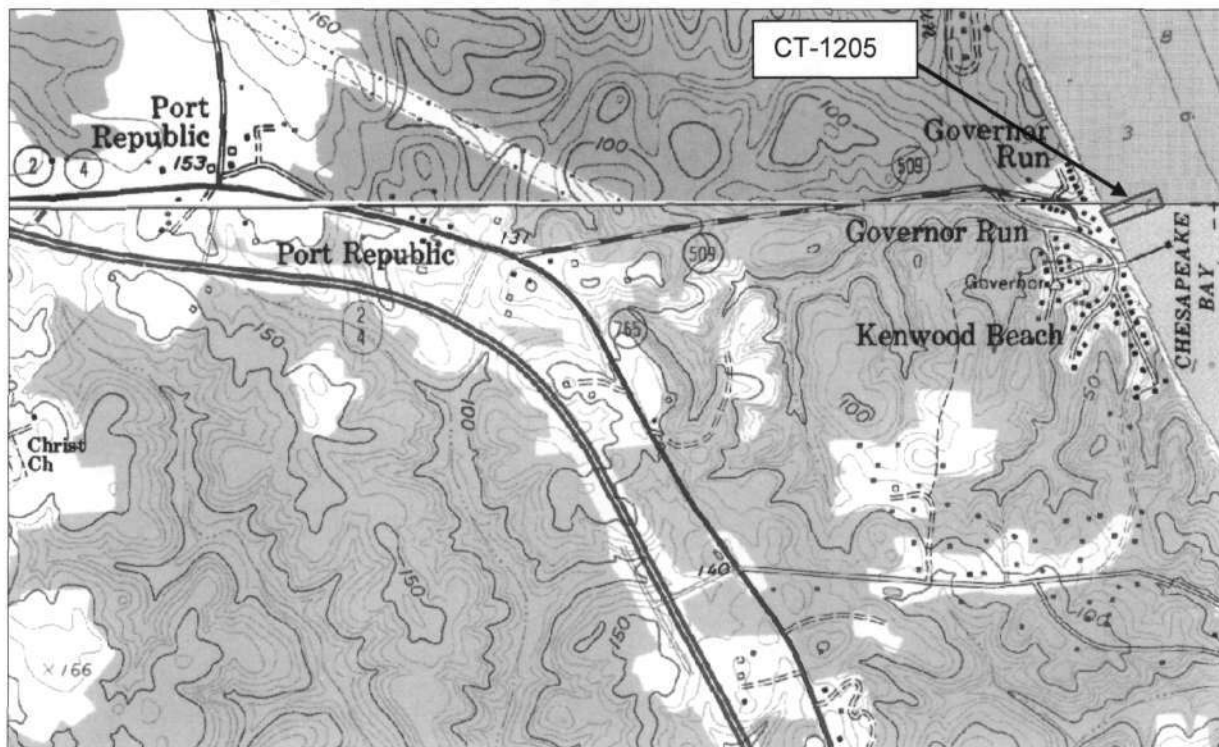
Calvert Soil Conservation District

CT-1205  
Governors Run Wharf  
15' Leonardtown Quadrangle





CT-1205  
Governors Run Wharf  
Prince Frederick and Broomes Island quadrangles



Microsoft Virtual Earth image, c. 2009

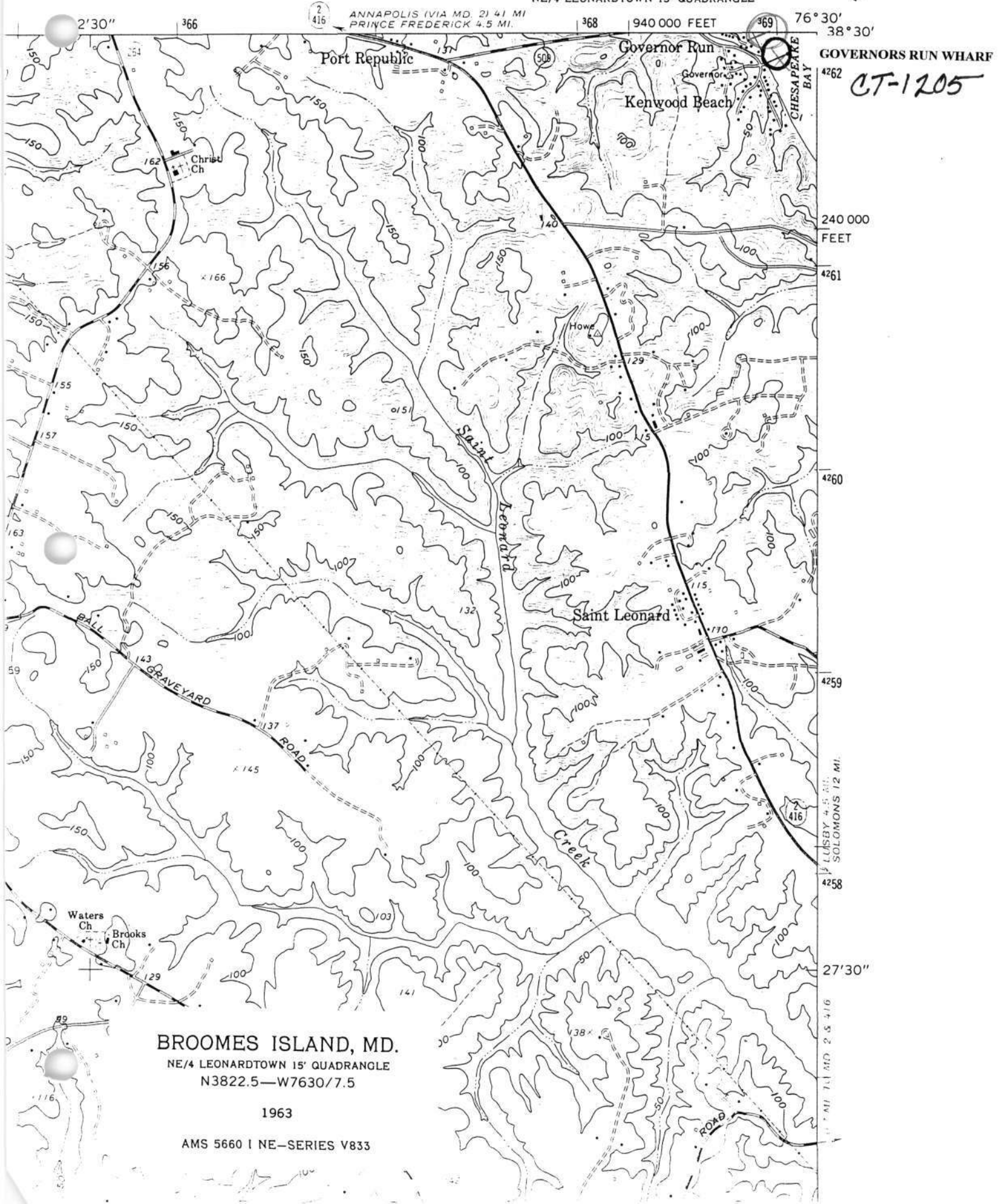


BROOMES ISLAND QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

5761 III  
(SHARPS ISLAND)  
1:62,500

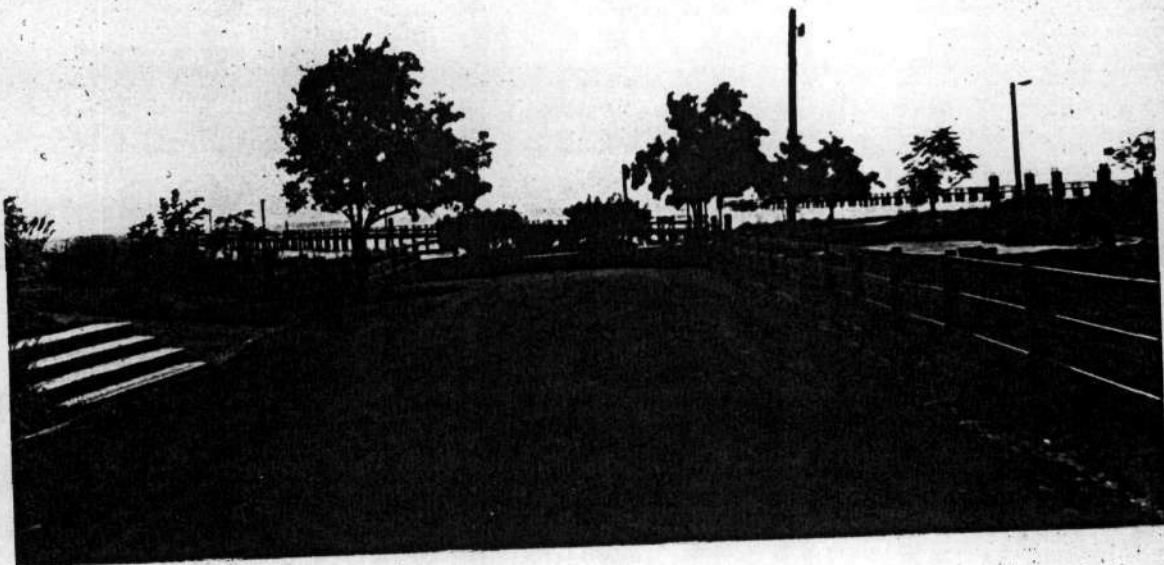


BROOMES ISLAND, MD.

NE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3822.5—W7630/7.5

1963

AMS 5660 I NE—SERIES V833



CT- 1205

Governors Run Wharf  
Calvert Co., MD

Ralph Eselmann

Aug 1996

neg: MD SHPO

view east toward wharf site from end of  
Governors Run Road

Governors Run Wharf